June/July 1973

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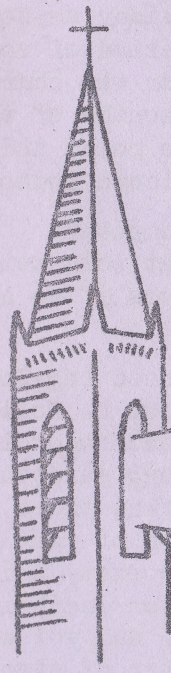

The MESSENGER

THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

St. Stephen's, Milnrow & Littleborough

June 1973

Dear Friends,

We are quickly approaching the holiday season and looking forward to a well earned period of relaxation; the pace for many of us in our two churches has been quite hectic during the past months of the pastoral vacancy and the opportunity to relax and recharge our batteries will be very welcome indeed.

This prayer taken from "More Contemporary Prayers" may help us to understand that relaxation has an important part to play in our lives if we are going to give of our best.

"Lord, you have created us so that we need regular periods of rest, the work of the day must be followed by the sleep of the night. A day off each week is precious and necessary to us. After long stretches of work we need holidays. We believe that these conditions of our life are an expression of your will, for Jesus recognized our need for rest; and one way people have thought of life after death is as the everlasting rest of your people. And yet we know that relaxation is not just a matter of stopping work. Some of us quickly become bored when we are not working. Or work has left us so exhausted that we cannot enjoy our leisure. Or other people make demands upon our spare time. It seems selfish to insist on time to ourselves, but we cannot be ourselves without it. We do not want to consume our time and energy on trifles, and yet if we cannot sometimes forget all about ideals and need and service we find we have not been refreshed after all.

Father guide us in this as in other things. Help us to relax as we should knowing that the world is in your hands not in ours. And take up our leisure time into your purpose, so that when we begin our work again we do so better for having rested."

The months ahead will give us plenty to do, and after a period of rest we shall, I'm sure be able to tackle it with greater enthusiasm.

With every good wish,

Allan Roberts

OBITUARY

On April 16th at 4 Timbercliffe, Summit, Mr.W. Cryer, husband of Mrs. Edith Cryer. Mr. Lord officaited at the funeral. We offer our sympathy and condolences to Mrs. Cryer and the relatives.

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FAMILY CHURCH READINGS

June 3rd "The Light of the World"
Isaiah 60: 1 - 6

10th "Truth breaks the language barrier"
Acts 2: 1 - 12

17th "The Holiness of God"
Isaiah 6: 1 - 9

24th "Triumphant Praise
Psalm 150

July 1st "The Servant Lord"
John 13: 3- 5; 12 - 17

8th "Obedient to the Law"
Psalm 119: 33 - 40

15th "The Blood of Martyrs"
Acts 8: 1 - 8; 26 - 38.

22nd God, here and everywhere
Psalm 95: 1 -7

29th "The year of the Lord's favour"
Luke 4: 14 - 24

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MISSIONARY BOXES will be received at Milnrow on Sunday 22nd July.
We hope to count lots of money, as the more money we collect, the more people we can help.

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The CHRISTIAN AID House to House Collection in Milnrow totalled £40.35.
Our sincere thanks to all who helped in any way.

THE FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLEY OF THE U.R.C.

Information extracted from Reports given by Delegates at District Meeting at Readcliffe on 18th May 1973.

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Revd. J. Huxtable inducted Red. K. Slack as Moderator; the Moderator Elect 1974/5 being Revd. Arthur McArthur.

- It was pleasing to note that 140 Churches had applied for membership of the United Reformed Church, 14 of these from our own Province, 4 of which are from our own District.

Deputations have also been received from other denominations, among them being the Church of Jesus Christ with whom conversations have begun.

- C.C.W.M. will now be known as Council for World Mission.

Concern was felt for the Church in Bangladesh. A committee of 8 U.R.C. and other churches are to examine and report.

- In the financial report, attention was drawn to the current estimated deficit of £25,000 due to inflation. It was suggested that £100 from one hundred large churches and £50 from smaller churches would resolve the problem.

1974 Budget - £557,000 (£300,000 of which is for World Mission). To achieve this figure it would be necessary to appeal for an increase of up to 25% in giving by church members. It was hoped that this would be brought to the notice of Church Treasurers, Finance Committees and the Church members, themselves. It is only natural that as the household expenses increase, so do the church expenses.

- The Revd. John Huxtable has received two Hon. Doctorate: D.D. at Lambeth and Aberdeen.

JULY 29th PREDICTED AS THE END OF CREATION!

After 15 months the "New Creation" is to be disbanded. In their short, but hectic, existence the group have made 20 appearances, 13 as a full group and 7 ladies-only occasions when the male members were at work. Their travels have taken them to Rochdale, Oldham, Bolton and Morecambe to play before audiences in churches, old folks clubs and, on 26th May, at a "Jeus Festival" in Alexandra Park, Oldham.

Wherever they have been they have received a warm reception and given much joy to their audiences. They have also derived much satisfaction themselves for there have been several moments of triumph to boost their self-confidence and over the months they have improved in skill and technique.

Inevitably, there have been difficulties from time to time, the most traumatic of these being the departure last summer of Glyn and Sheila Jenkins. However, Dorothy Emmott moved into Sheila's place and the narrator's role, formerly filled by Glyn, has been shared by Edith Gillon and Audrey Scaddon. There were also difficulties with the accompaniment until Arthur Clegg became the regular pianist a few months ago.

The decision to disband was taken after much thought and discussion. The members have now decided that they ought to be working more within the congregation to improve the musical content of services at St. Stephen's and in accordance with this they have resolved to use the various donations they have received to spend on new music for the church choir.

To those who have not yet heard the "New Creation" and to those who have heard and wish to hear again we would point out that they will appear at Littleborough on Tuesday, 17th July and their final appearance will be at St. Stephen's where they will take the evening service on Sunday, 29th July.

GADDING ABOUT AT THE GUILD

At the invitation of Mr. Allan Roberts, the well-known Church Secretary and Captain of Industry, a dozen ladies paid a visit to Housing Units at Hollinwood on Thursday 26th April. A wide selection of wares both practical and fancy were displayed and an examination of the garden department and furniture floor were carried out. Due to the terrific volume of sales of can-openers and candleabra it was predicted that Mr. Roberts will shortly be retiring. Before the ladies left to catch their homeward train refreshments were served. Thanks are extended by the Ladies of the Guild to Mr. Roberts and his staff for their hospitality.

On May 1st there was the annual N.W.G.B. cookery demonstration which was this year on "Savoury and Sweet" dishes. 40 ladies attended and when the dishes were raffled off at the end of the evening there were 7 lucky winners: Miss A. Clegg, Mrs. A. Wood, Mrs. E. Starkie, Mrs. M. Howarth, Mrs. I. Collins, Mrs. Griffiths and Mrs. D. Hanson.

Coming Shortly

5th June: There will be a coach drive, followed by a supper at "Mother Hubbards" near Bradford. The coach will leave church at 7.30 pm. and those ladies wishing to attend should give their names to Mrs. D. Law or Mrs. C. Clough as soon as possible.

10th July: Ladies Guild Rally at 7.30 pm.

14th July (Saturday): Garden Party - 3.0 p.m. at the home of Mr. & Mrs. W. Baines, 14 Heaton St.

7th August: Women's Guild, when Counc. Edwards of Wardle will be the Guest Speaker.

PEPPERMINT SLICE

4 oz. Margarine
4 oz. Brown Sugar
6 oz. S.R. Flour
1 oz. Cocoa
1 oz. Crushed Cornflakes

Melt Margarine and sugar in pan.
Add flour and cocoa and mix well. Add cornflakes.
Bake in a shallow tin (e.g. Swiss roll tin)
at 350° for 25 minutes.

Topping.....
8 oz. Icing Sugar
½ teasp. Peppermint essence
Water to mix (thick consistency
Pour over cake when cold.

Melt 10 squares of plain cooking chocolate
and pour over icing when this is set.

....Submitted by Mrs. C. Hey

The "EGG IN THE NEST" last month was submitted by Mrs. M. Mellor.
Sorry your name was left off, Marilyn!

COMMUNION TABLE FLOWERS .....MILNROW

June 3rd	Mrs. B. Webber	
10th	Mrs. E. Beattie	Mrs. D. Law
	Mrs. C. Wilkinson	
17th	Mrs. B. Metcalfe	
24th	HOLIDAYS	
July 1st	"	
8th	Mrs. B. Wild	
15th	Counc. A. Wood	Mrs. A. Tither
22nd	Miss A. Wood	Mrs. P. Chadwick
	Mrs. Armstrong	
29th	Mrs. M. Millington	
Aug. 5th	Mrs. N. Settle	Mrs. J. Harrison

HEREAFTER - NOW

Once there was a little saint who had lived a long and happy life. One day God's angel came to the little saint, who was in the monastery kitchen washing pots and pans. "God has sent me," said the angel. "The time has come for you to take up your abode in eternity.

"I thank God for thinking of me," said the little saint. "But, as you can see, there is this great heap of pots and pans to be washed. I don't want to seem ungrateful, but do you think I might put off taking my abode in eternity until I have finished?" The angel looked at him in the wise and loving way of angels. "I'll see what can be done," he said, and vanished.

The little saint went on with his pots and pans, and a great number of other things, too. One day, as he stood hoeing in the garden, there again was the angel. The saint pointed with his hoe up and down garden rows. "Look at all these weeds," he said. "Do you think eternity can hold off a little longer?" The angel smiled, and again vanished.

The saint went on hoeing, and then he painted the barn. What with one thing and onother, time raced on until one day he was in the hospital tending the sick. He looked up and there was the angel.

This time the saint just spread his hands in a gesture of resignation and compassion and drew the angel's eyes after his own around the ward where all the sufferes were. Without a word, the angel vanished.

That evening, when the little saint retired to his cell in the monastery and sank down on his pallet, he began to think about the angel, and how he had put him off for such a long time. Suddenly he felt very old and tired, and said, "God, if you would like to send your angel again, I think I would like to see him now. He had no sooner spoken than the angel stood beside hi "If you want to take me," said the saint, "I am ready now to take up my abode in eternity." The angel looke at the little saint in the wise and loving way of ange and said, "Where do you think you have been?"

We wish everyone a happy holiday, whereever and whenev

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Christ is the World's light, he and none other,
Born in our darkness, he became our brother,
If we have seen him we have seen the Father,
Glory to God on high.

Christ is the World's peace, he and none other,
No man can serve him and despise his brother,
Who else unites us, one in God the Father,
Glory to God on high.

Christ is the World's life, he and none other,
Sold once for silver, murdered here, our brother,
He who redeems us, reigns on high with God the Father,
Glory to God on high.

Give God the glory, God and none other,
Give God the glory, Spirit, Son and Father,
Give God the glory, God in man my brother,
Glory to God on high.

.....(F. Pratt Green)

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NATIONAL CHILDREN'S HOME

LITTLEBOROUGH House to House Appeal

Fortnight commencing 2nd April 1973.

Church	£
Victoria St. Methodist	44.09
Greenhill Methodist	18.00
Stubley Methodist	14.66
Dearnley Methodist	30.85
United Reformed Church	23.00
Smithybridge Methodist	46.34
Summit Methodist	17.25
	£194.19

er you go. Come back full of vim and vigour!

HOW MIGHTY OAKS FROM LITTLE ACORNS GROW

JUNIOR CHURCH ANNIVERSARY Services were held on April 29th when the preacher was the Rev. Robert Parker B.A., B.D.

This being National Tree Planting Year, gave the Junior Church a pretext for presenting a pageant on the theme "Trees of the Bible." This included an action play and song about the inevitable Zacchaeus performed by the beginners, bible readings by the Seniors and two hymns by the Juniors: "God Who Made the Earth" and "He Made Me." The choir contributed the introit "Morning has broken."

At the evening service the Choir sang "The Lord is my Shepherd" and "Make a Joyful Noise" while the Juniors rendered "Candlelight" and a repeat of "He Made Me." Full credit should go to Mr. Peter Walker who trained and led the children for their hymns and and our thanks are extended to Mr.Arthur Clegg, the visiting organist from Milnrow, and to Mrs. Mallinson and Mrs. Booth who arranged the flowers so beautifully. Indeed we would extend our gratitude to the many people who contributed so much to the success of the day.

UNITED SERVICE * WHIT SUNDAY

10th JUNE at 10.45 am.

Greenhill Methodist	Littleborough U.R.C.	Victoria St. Methodist

To be held in our church but make special note of the time,

GETTING INTO THEIR STRIDE

Our second dance at Littleborough was much better supported than the first and a happy time was had by all who came on May 12th. Thank you all for joining in the fun and helping us to make a £4 profit into the bargain.

AN AMERICAN SUPPER

on

Tuesday, 17th July at 7.45 pm.

with
entertainment by
"THE NEW CREATION"
of St. Stephen's.

Admission, including supper 15p
Children & O.A.Ps. 10p

Proceeds for the Drapery Stall (Autumn Fair)

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO.....

Mr. & Mrs. W. Griffiths have transferred their church membership to Hallfold U.R.C. We send them our best wishes and thank them for their contributions to the life and worship of our church during their stay in Littleborough.

TRIP ONE.....

.....Ladies Guild outing to.....

BRIDLINGTON

On Tuesday August 7th * Fare 90p

Those wishing to go should give their names to Mrs.Stott as soon as possible.

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TRIP TWO.....

.....Annual Picnic outing to....

TODMORDEN PARK
"The Gateway to Calderdale"

On Saturday, August 11th
Not to be missed by lovers of fun & noise

CHURCH DUTIES - MILNROW

FAMILY WORSHIP DOOR STEWARDS

June 3rd	Counc. I. Royle	Counc. J. Harrison
10th	Mr. J. Collins	Mrs. A. Collins
17th	Mr. L. Whittaker	Mrs. F. Rae
24th		
July 1st		
8th	Mr. A. Bruckshaw	Mrs. A. Baines
15th	Mr. G. Buckley	Mr. A. Rae
22nd	Mr. H. Mellor	Mrs. F. Butterworth
29th	Mr. D. Fursey	Mrs. J. Duffy
Aug. 5th	Counc. I.Royle	Counc. J. Harrison

	ELDERS ROTA EVENING DOOR STEWARDS	PIANIST/ORGANIST EVENING WORSHIP
June 3rd	Mr. J. Wild	Mr. D. Logan
10th	Miss M. Wood	Mrs. C. Hey
17th	Mr. J. Emmott	Mr. A. Clegg
24th	No Evening Service + HOLIDAYS	
July 1st	No Evening Service - HOLIDAYS	
8th	Mr. K. Hey	Mr. D. Logan
15th	Mrs. N. Settle	Mr. J. Emmott
22nd	Mr. R. Gillon	Mrs. C. Hey
29th	Mr. J. Wild	Mr. A. Clegg
Aug. 5th	Mr. B. Clough	Mr. D. Logan

COMMUNION ROTA

June 3rd	Miss M. Wood	Mr. K. Hey
July 8th	Mr. J. Emmott	Mrs. E. Gillon
15th	Mr. J. Wild	Mr. B. Clough (am.)

FAMILY CHURCH COFFEE ROTA

June 3rd	Mrs. E. Busill	Miss I. Tither
10th	Mrs. H. Buckley	Mrs. E. Smith
17th	Miss M. Wood	Miss A. Clegg
24th)		
July 1st)	HOLIDAYS	
8th	Mrs. J. Duffy	Mrs. F. Butterworth
15th	Mrs. A. Wood	Mrs. A. Collins
22nd	Mrs. H. Whitehead	Mrs. Greenhalgh
29th	Mrs. E. Garside	Mrs. J. Calow
Aug. 5th	Mrs. C. Hey	Mrs. M. Mellor

CHURCH DUTIES - LITTLEBOROUGH

DOOR STEWARDS

June 3rd	10.30 am.	Mr. H.N. Hill	Mrs.B. Hartley
10th	10.30am.	Mr. F. Beattie	Mrs.E. Crossley
	6.00 pm.	Mr. E. Holt	Mr. J. Holt
17th	10.30 am.	Mr. J. Lord	Mr. J. Nairn
July 8th	10.30 am.	Mr. J. Hill	Mr. W. Barker
	6.00 pm.	Mr.F. Ingham	Mr. E. Holt
15th	10.30 am.	Mrs. Stott	Mr. B. Hill
22nd	10.30 am.	Mr. J. Holt	Mrs.E. Crossley
29th	10.30 am.	Mr. F. Beattie	Mr. J. Lord
Aug. 5th	10.30 am.	Mr. J. Nairn	Mr. W. Barker

ELDERS COMMUNION ROTA

June 10th	6.00 pm.	Mr. F. Beattie	Mr. F. Ingham
July 8th	6.00 pm.	Mr. J. Nairn	Mr. W. Barker
22nd	10.30 am.	Mr. F.G. Simpson	Mr. J. Lord

COFFEE ROTA

June 3rd	K. Hill	J. Simpson
10th	D. Mallinson	E. Crawford
	& helpers	
17th	B. Hartley	S. Moss
July 1st	J. Law	B. Holt
8th	A. Merrick	J. Allison
15th	W. Spinks	J. Hobbs
22nd	K. Hill	J. Simpson
29th	D. Mallinson	E. Crawford
Aug. 5th	S. Moss	B. Hartley

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FAMILY CHURCH READINGS: Details on Page 3

Readers:	June 3rd	Mrs. Lightfoot
	10th	Carl Mallinson
	July 8th	Mrs. K. Hill
	15th	Mr. S. Moss
	22nd	Mrs. M.G. Hill
	29th	Mrs. Vincent
	Aug. 5th	Martin Law

If you happen to be going on Holiday, will you please take a special look at the rotas and arrange for a substitute yourself to assist the smooth running of things.

ST. STEPHEN'S DAIRY

June		
Sun. 3rd	11.00 am.	Mr. A. Roberts
	6.00 pm.	Mrs. E.M. Richardson (Service of Word & Sacrament)
Mon. 4th	6.30 pm.	Pilots
Tues.5th	7.30 pm.	Women's Guild outing to "Mother Hubbards"
Sun.10th	11.00 am.	Mr. D. Jones
	6.00 pm.	Mr. D.S. Nuttall B.Sc.
Mon.11th	6.30 pm.	Pilots
Wed.13th	7.30 pm.	Edlers Meeting
Sun.17th	11.00	Mr. E. Fallows
	6.00 pm.	Worship in Words & Music Mr.A. Roberts & the Choir.
Mon 18th	6.30 pm.	Pilots
Sun.24th	11.00 am.	Mrs. E. Gillon No Evening Service
July		
Sun. 1st	11.00 am.	To be announced No Evening Service
Sun. 8th	11.00 am.	Mrs. E. Gillon
	6.00 pm.	Mr. A. Roberts (Service of Word & Sacrament)
Tue.10th	7.30 pm.	Ladies Rally
Wed.11th	7.30 pm.	Elders Meeting
Sat.14th	3.00 pm.	Garden Party at 14 Heaton St,
Sun.15th	11.00 am.	Rev. W. Purvis (Family Communion)
	6.00 pm.	"
Sun.22nd	11.00 am.	Reception of C.C.W.M. Boxes
	6.00 pm.	To be announced
Mon.23rd	8.00 pm.	Lay Preachers Fellowship at Stubbins
Wed.25th	8.00 pm.	Church Meeting
Sun.29th	11.00 am.	To be announced
	6.00 pm.	"New Creation"

OFFERTORIES

	am.	pm.	Envelopes	Total
April	£23.32	£10.63	£65.92	£99.87

LITTLEBOROUGH DIARY

June

Sun. 3rd 10.30 am. Mr. Jackson (Todmorden)
Tues. 5th 7.30 pm. Womens Guild - Mrs. Sutcliffe
Thur. 7th 7.00 pm. Pilots
Sun. 10th 10.45 am. United Service - Dr. Letch
6.00 pm. Mr. J. Lord - Communion
Thur. 14th 7.00 pm. Pilots
Sun. 17th 10.30 am. Young People's Day
Thur. 21st 7.00 pm. Pilots
Sun. 24th No Service - HOLIDAYS

July

Sun. 1st No Service - HOLIDAYS
Sun. 8th 10.30 am.
Tues. 10th 7.30 pm. Womens Guild
Thur. 12th 7.00 pm. Pilots
Sun. 15th 10.30 a m.
Tues. 17th 7.45 pm. "New Creation" all welcome.
Thur. 19th 7.00 pm. Pilots
Sun. 22nd 10.30 am. Communion
Mon. 23rd Junior Church Staff Meeting
7.45 pm.
Thur. 26th 7.00 pm. Pilots
Sun. 29th 10.30 am.

August

Thur. 2nd 7.00 pm. Pilots
Sun. 5th 10.30 am.

FLOWERS FOR COMMUNION TABLE

June 3rd Mrs. Stott
10th Mrs. Priestley
17th Mrs. F. Simpson
July 8th Mrs. J.A. Leach
15th Mrs. Stott
22nd Mrs. Beattie
29th Mrs. Marvelley
Aug. 5th Mrs. D. Leach

CHURCH SECRETARIES:

MILNROW

Mr. Allan Roberts,
54 Beechfield Road,
Milnrow.
Tel: ROCHDALE 42243

LITTLEBOROUGH

Mr. F.G. Simpson,
121 Calderbrook Road,
Littleborough.
Tel: 061 834 4402
(Business)

*

MESSENGER EDITOR:

Counc. Ian Royle B.Sc. (Econ.),
24 Ladyhouse Close,
Milnrow.
Tel: ROCHDALE 41916

*

HOSPITAL VISITORS

MILNROW: Miss M. Wood
Mrs. A. Wood
Mrs. E. Starkie
Miss A. Memory

*